

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

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CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 26EA PRESS SUMMARY

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1. FROM MANILA, UNDER PHOTO OF SILVER-HAIRED ORATOR,
CHITRIB (UPI) REPORTS AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN ("CLOSE
ASSOCIATE" OF HAK) TELLING OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB THAT
INDO SITUATION FAR FROM STABILIZED. "THERE IS STILL

WAR GOING ON IN CAMBODIA. THERE IS STILL THE POSSIBILITY OF AN OUTBREAK BY MISCALCULATION" BY LAO DONG PARTY LEADERS "WHICH MIGHT REQUIRE CONTINUED AMERICAN PRESENCE TO BALANCE".

2. LARGER ARTICLE (SMALLER PHOTO) IN BOSTON GLOBE FOLDS REPORTS FROM SVN AND CAMBODIA INTO SULLIVAN STORY CAPTIONED "US ENVOY GIVES WARNING TO HANOI". IDENTIFYING WHS AS LEADING ARCHITECT OF CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT, SAID HE "HINTED" THAT US AIR POWER MIGHT RETURN TO THE WAR IF HEAVY FIGHTING BROKE OUT. IN HIS WIDE-RANGING SPEECH, WHS SAID FURTHER PULLOUT FROM THAILAND WILL BE "IN SUCH A MEASURE AND AT SUCH A PACE" AS WE AND THAI AGREE TO BE ADEQUATE FOR STABILIZATION OF AREA PEACE AND FOR PROTECTION OF THAI NATIONAL INTERESTS. WHILE CONTINUING MAINTAIN LIMITED MILITARY PRESENCE IN ASIA, US WILL TRY TO TRANSLATE NEW "KISSINGER DOCTRINE" OF NOT SEEKING DOMINATION WHILE STANDING BY FRIENDS. BUT OUR ASIAN ALLIES SHOULD NO LONGER TAKE FOR GRANTED US INVOLVEMENT IN AREA'S MILITARY AND ECON SECURITY.

3. PRO-COMMUNIST FORCES OVERRUN BAN HOUET NOI, EIGHT MILES SE OF LUANG PRABANG (CHITRIB, PHINQ, WP). RLA CONSIDERS TAKEOVER AND ATTACK ON HILLTOP HQ. OF GEN. VANG PAO NEAR LONG CHENG AS GRAVE C-F VIOLATION AND BELIEVES MOVES WERE DESIGNED TO SHOW PL ABILITY TO DEFEND LIBERATED ZONE (REUTER).

4. NVN NEWS AGENCY REPORTS THAT NVN HAS DECIDED TO RECALL ALL EMBASSY STAFF FROM SANTIAGO (REUTER).

5. MILITARY COMMAND SAYS LE MINH, BATTALION POST NEAR KHMER BORDER, FELL AFTER FIFTH TANK ASSAULT, FIRST DIRECT TANK ASSAULT SINCE C-F (REUTER). MILITARY SOURCES SAY SVN INTENDS TO USE AT LEAST 2,000 ARVN UNCLASSIFIED

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INFANTRY, HEAVY ARTILLERY, AND AIR STRIKES TO RETAKE LE MINH (CHITRIB).

6. MILITARY SPOKESMAN SAYS INSURGENTS OVERRUN ANOTHER MILITARY OUTPOST, WITH 20 DEFENDERS, 60 MILES SW OF SAIGON (WP, PHINQ, CHITRIB).

7. CHITRIB PRINTS 3 LARGE PHOTOS SHOWING CHILDREN RETURNING TO GVN-HELD VILLAGE NEAR QUANG TRI AND HOLDING OUTDOOR CLASSES BECAUSE LAST YEAR'S NVA OFFENSIVE LEFT VILLAGE IN RUINS.

8. SCHANBERG (NYT) FROM PP QUOTES (UNIDENTIFIED) EMBASSY SOURCES THAT, DUE TO A HIGHER LEVEL OF FIGHTING,

AMOUNT OF FY 74 MILITARY AID REQUESTED FOR GKR WILL BE INSUFFICIENT AND WAY WILL HAVE TO BE FOUND TO PROVIDE MORE. FY 74 REQUEST FOR 170 MILLION DOLLARS WAS ARRIVED AT LAST FALL WHEN THE WAR APPEARED TO BE WINDING DOWN AND BEFORE BATTLES OF PP AND KOMPONG CHAM. CONGRESS HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY COOL TO SUPPLEMENTAL REQUESTS, BUT FUNDS COULD BE JUGGLED WITHIN TOTAL APPROPRIATION TO GIVE THE GKR MORE (AND SOMEONE ELSE LESS). SCHANBERG SAYS THE SAME SOURCES ARE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT MILITARY SITUATION, DESCRIBING THE KI AS BADLY MAULED AND CONFUSED AFTER KOMPONG CHAM DEFEAT. HE ALSO REPORTS RUMORS CIRCULATING ABOUT WHERE THE NEXT STRIKE WILL BE, SINCE ENEMY HAS ALWAYS STAGED DRAMATIC ATTACK AROUND BUDDHIST FESTIVAL OF THE DEAD (ALSO UPI, NYDN; REUTER).

9. CONGRESSIONAL SOURCES SAY THAT DECISION ON AMOUNT OF FY 74 CAMBODIAN MILITARY AID AWAITS SENATE-HOUSE CONFERENCE, TENTATIVELY 2 WEEKS AWAY. IN JUNE SENATE APPROVED 150 MILLION DOLLARS FOR CAMBODIA (COMPARED TO 133 MILLION DOLLARS PROVIDED IN FY 73); HOUSE APPROVED 550 MILLION DOLLARS OF 652 MILLION DOLLARS REQUESTED WORLDWIDE BUT DID NOT EARMARK SPECIFIC SUM FOR CAMBODIA. SOURCE FAMILIAR WITH THE REQUEST SAID THERE MIGHT BE A SENATE MOVE TO REQUEST CAMBODIAN MILITARY AID THROUGH DOD AS IS DONE FOR SVN AND LAOS (NYT).

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10. SOUTHERN PP DARK AFTER REBEL COMMANDOS STRIKE POWER PLANT, DAMAGING GENERATOR (CHITRIB; UPI, PHINQ; WP; REUTER; AP). KI AGAIN CUT ROUTE 4 TO KOMPONG CHAM, AT POINT 45 MI. SW OF PP (WP; CHITRIB; AP). REBELS INFILTRATE AROUND FANK FORCE THAT IS TRYING TO REOPEN ROUTE 5 TO BATTAMBANG (UPI, NYDN; CHITRIB). KI ATTACK GKR DRIVE 12 MI. SOUTH OF PP, FORCE FANK TO RETREAT ACROSS KOMPONG TOUL RIVER WHERE AT LEAST 10 SOLDIERS DROWN (UPI NYDN, PHINQ). KI SHELL KOMPONG CHAM UNIVERSITY GROUNDS (UPI, PHINQ; CHITRIB).

CHINA

11. MAO HAS PERSONALLY PLEDGED CHINESE SUPPORT TO EGYPT, ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO PRC-EGYPT MILITARY AID AGREEMENT, EGYPTIAN AIDE REPORTS ON EL SHAFEI'S 2-HOUR TALK WITH MAO SUNDAY (AFP, WP).

12. CHI PENG-FEI SENDS IBRD AND IMF MESSAGES DEMANDING EXPULSION OF TAIWAN, IN COMPLIANCE WITH 1971 UN RESOLUTION CERTIFYING PRC AS SOLE LEGITIMATE REP OF CHINA IN UN (REUTER).

13. CNA REPORTS CCK TUESDAY POLICY STATEMENT THAT TAIWAN WILL KEEP TIES OF FRIENDSHIP AND TRADE WITH COUNTRIES SWITCHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO PRC, BUT THAT GRC WILL NEVER NEGOTIATE WITH PEKING. PREMIER ANNOUNCED THAT GRC INTENDS FURTHER STRENGTHENING TIES WITH US; ADDED ROC WILL EXPAND RELATIONS WITH ANY NATION SO LONG AS THEY ARE "MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE ANTI-COMMUNIST CAUSE" (REUTER). CCK ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT ROC'S INDUSTRY INCREASED 24 PERCENT IN FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1973, FOREIGN TRADE JUMPED 39 PERCENT AND ITS GNP GREW 11.6 PERCENT (AP, PHINQ).

14. IN REPORT ON HAK'S UN ACTIVITIES, WP'S MARILYN BERGER QUOTES JAPANESE SOURCES THAT HAK TOLD OHIRA HE WOULD STOP OFF IN JAPAN ON WAY TO AND FROM PRC.

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15. NYT (ALDEN) AND SUN (KEAT) NOTE THAT GROMYKO MADE NO DIRECT REFERENCE TO CHINA IN UNGA ADDRESS. ALDEN NOTES GROMYKO'S ASSURANCE, HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS "NO PROBLEM" IN RELATIONS BETWEEN USSR AND ASIAN STATES NOT SOLUBLE BY NEGOTIATIONS. NYT PLAYED PHOTO OF PRC DEL DURING GROMYKO SPEECH, NOTING PERMREP HUANG HUA'S EMPTY SEAT.

JAPAN

16. SUN'S PINE AND NYT'S SILK, AT NAIROBI IMF MEETING, REPORT JAPAN APPEARED UNDECIDED TUESDAY ABOUT WHETHER TO CONTINUE PRESENT SYSTEM OF "FLOATING" EXCHANGE RATES; US FAVORS MAINTAINING FLOAT SYSTEM.

17. CULLISON (JOC), IN TOKYO, SAYS WARNING BY JAPANESE COMMODITIES EXPERTS THAT DRAINS ON US WHEAT SUPPLIES MAY FORCE US REIMPOSITION OF WHEAT EXPORT CONTROLS HAS COME AS "CONSIDERABLE SHOCK" TO JAPANESE, WHO HAVE ONLY JUST RECOVERED FROM SIMILAR CUTBACKS IN GRAIN SHIPMENTS IN PAST FEW MONTHS.

18. CHITRIB'S KIRK, IN TOKYO, REPORTS TANAKA'S HOPE THAT SOVIET WILL RETURN 4 NORTHERN ISLANDS; BUT TOKYO ANALYSTS STRONGLY DOUBT MOSCOW WILL YIELD ON THIS, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE SOVIET AIR FORCE MAINTAINS BASE ON ONE OF ISLANDS.

19. TOKYO SCALPERS GETTING 150 DOLLARS PER TICKET FOR NORTH KOREA GRAND OPERA (UPI, PHINQ).

KOREA

20. PARK HYUNG KYU, ONE OF SK'S MOST HIGHLY RESPECTED PROTESTANT LEADERS, RECEIVES 2-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR CONSPIRING TO TOPPLE ROKG (CSM).

SEATO

21. SENS. AIKEN AND CHURCH INTRODUCE RESOLUTION
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CALLING FOR FORMAL REVIEW OF SEATO BY SFRC, WITH REASSESSMENT OF US POLICIES IN PACIFIC. CHURCH SAYS ONLY US, THAILAND AND PHILIPPINES REMAIN "FIRM SUPPORTERS" OF SEATO AND AUSTRALIA IS SHOWING INCREASING DISINTEREST. SUPPORTING RESOLUTION, BYRD (W. VA.) CALLS SEATO "OBSTACLE TO A REALISTIC AND PROGRESSIVE" US POLICY IN ASIA -- AN INSTITUTION NO LONGER PROMOTING US OBJECTIVES, "IF, IN FACT, IT EVER DID." MAINTAINS US HAS NO VITAL SEA INTERESTS JUSTIFYING "GREAT COSTS OR GREAT RISKS TO OUR NATION." INSISTS US WITHDRAW FROM SEATO AND PLACE ITS SUPPORT BEHIND ORGANIZATIONS COMPATIBLE WITH US OBJECTIVES (WP, NYDN).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

22. IN SAIGON, LAT'S MCARTHUR (SEPT. 24) CITES INFORMATION THAT SEVERE RICE SHORTAGE HAS LED TO SERIOUS ARMED BATTLES IN CAMBODIA BETWEEN KI AND NVN FORCES. SAYS WITHIN PAST FEW DAYS CLANDESTINE SOURCES HAVE OBTAINED NEW COSVN DIRECTIVE ON RICE. SEVERAL WEEKS BACK, COSVN HAD BEEN WARNING OF APPROACHING SEVERE RICE SHORTAGE; LATER DIRECTIVE REFERS TO "BATTLE FOR THE STOMACH OF THE MASSES" AND SAYS, "WE MUST FIGHT THE ENEMY OVER EVERY GRAIN OF RICE." MCARTHUR SUGGESTS THAT IN THIS SITUATION, "WEATHERED REVOLUTIONARIES AT COSVN CAN HARDLY LOOK WITH FAVOR ON REQUESTS FOR AMMUNITION" FROM KI "WHO HAVE BEEN UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO GET SUFFICIENT RICE FROM THE RICHER PROVINCES OF THE NORTHWEST. SINCE HANOI MONTHS AGO WARNED ITS ALLIES IN THE SOUTH TO STRESS 'SELF-SUFFICIENCY,' LITTLE HELP CAN BE EXPECTED FROM THAT QUARTER."

23. IN SECOND COLUMN (SAME DATE), MCARTHUR SAYS DECLINING US PRESENCE IN SVN HAS RECEIVED UNMISTAKABLE CONFIRMATION FROM "UNEXPECTED QUARTER": SO. CHINA SEA CIGARET SMUGGLERS. FOR YEARS US CIGARETS FLOWED SO TORRENTIALLY FROM PX SYSTEM THAT SMUGGLERS ABANDONED SVN MARKET; BUT SIZE OF RECENTLY CAPTURED SMUGGLED CIGARET CARGOES "CLEARLY INDICATES
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THAT THE TRADE IS ONCE AGAIN BEGINNING TO FLOURISH."
FINDS VENERABLE SVN BLACK MARKET CHANGING ONLY
SLOWLY. MOST STAPLE US GOODS (TOOTHPASTE, SOAP,
FOAM RUBBER PILLOWS, HAIR SPRAYS AND OTHER US
COSMETICS) STILL IN EXCELLENT SUPPLY -- "INDICATING
THAT FORESIGHTED FREE ENTERPRISERS STOCKED UP
ADEQUATELY DURING THE GOOD DAYS."

24. JAMESON (LAT, SEPT. 24), IN TOKYO, SAYS FACT THAT
TANAKA IS VISITING WEST EUROPE AND USSR AFTER GAP
OF MORE THAN DECADE AND FACT THAT JAPAN HAS RECOGNIZED
DRV AND PRC, WITH WHOM US HAS "NO RELATIONS,"
UNDERScores WHAT JAPANESE LEADERS HAVE CALLED "BROADENING
HORIZONS" OF TOKYO DIPLOMACY. AS AMB. INGERSOLL
"ACKNOWLEDGED ONLY LAST WEEK," NO LONGER IS JAPAN
FOLLOWING US FOREIGN POLICY. ENVOY ADDED THAT WHAT
WILL BE IMPORTANT FROM NOW ON IS THAT US AND JAPAN
UNDERSTAND WHAT EACH OTHER IS DOING AND TAKE CARE TO
SEE THEIR SEPARATE ACTIONS DO NOT CONFLICT. "THAT
OBJECTIVE, TO HEAR TANAKA TELL IT HIMSELF, WILL BE
FULFILLED" ON HIS EUROPEAN TRIP, JAMESON ADDS.

25. FROM TOKYO, WP'S OBERDORFER SEES TANAKA'S
TRIP TO EUROPE AND USSR AS "MOST EXTENSIVE ROUND
OF INTERNATIONAL SUMMITRY EVER UNDERTAKEN BY A
JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER"; WHATEVER ITS OUTCOME, TOUR
IS CONSIDERED OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE AS DEMONSTRATION
OF GOJ'S GROWING POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT WITH
OUTSIDE WORLD AND ITS CONTINUING EMERGENCE FROM US
SHADOW.

26. REVIEWING HAK'S MONDAY UN ADDRESS, CHITRIB
FEELS HIS ENDORSEMENT OF JAPAN FOR PERMANENT
MEMBERSHIP ON UNSC "MAKES GOODSENSE," BUT FEARS
IT WILL "FIND LITTLE SUPPORT IN MUCH OF THE 'NONALIGNED'
THIRD WORLD."

27. PROF. CLAUDE BUSS (LAT, SEPT. 25) CONTENTS MARCOS
DESERVES FULL CREDIT FOR POSITIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN
PHILS SINCE IMPOSITION OF MARTIAL LAW: CURSE OF GOONS
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AND GUNS ABOLISHED, STREET CRIME DIMINISHED AND STREETS
ARE MUCH CLEANER AND WELL-LIGHTED; GOVT. GRAFT AND
CORRUPTION ATTACKED WITH GENUINE ENERGY; LAND REFORM
IMPLEMENTED; CAMPAIGN AGAINST MOSLEM REBELS HAS BEEN
PROSECUTED, DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE CEASED; CLIMATE FOR
FOREIGN INVESTMENTS HAS IMPROVED. WITHIN YEAR,
"SURFACE OF PHILIPPINE LIFE HAS BEEN BEAUTIFULLY SCRUBBED";
BUT RECORD "HAS GLARING NEGATIVE ASPECTS": CIVIL
LIBERTIES SUCH AS FREEDOM FROM ARBITRARY ARREST, UN-

RESTRICTED MOVEMENT, GUARANTEE OF FAIR TRIAL, FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PRESS HAVE VANISHED. MAINTAINS THESE NEGATIVE ASPECTS ARE VITAL, FOR THESE FREEDOMS -- NOT MERE ANTI-COMMUNISM -- "ARE WHAT OUR CULTURAL PROGRAMS OVERSEAS... ARE ALL ABOUT." MARTIAL LAW ALONE IS NOT SUFFICIENT REASON TO CHANGE, NOW, US POLICIES DEALING WITH MILITARY BASES, PREFERENTIAL TRADE ARRANGEMENTS, ECONOMIC AID OR OTHER FACETS OF US-PHILS RELATIONS. ON OTHER HAND, "IT IS ELEMENTARY PRUDENCE TO WATCH DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY, PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO CONTINUED MARTIAL LAW AND WHAT HAVE BEEN TERMED THE 'MATURING ATTITUDES' TOWARD THE US AND TO MAKE A MORE HARD-NOSED ASSESSMENT OF WHAT CONSTITUTES OUR VITAL INTERESTS" IN PHILS AND REST OF SEA.

28. CHILDS (SUN) FEELS HAK "HAS COME THROUGH WITH ELOQUENCE AND DISTINCTION" IN FIRST DAYS AS SECSTATE. AS HAK'S CHINESE FRIENDS TOLD HIM DURING PRC VISITS, CHILDS ADDS, "THE PAST IS THE PAST. THE PAST -- THE SECRET CAMBODIAN BOMBING, THE BUGGING," ETC. -- "MUST BE PUT ASIDE. IN THE SPIRIT OF THE NIXON-KISSINGER INITIATIVE THAT PUT ASIDE 22 YEARS OF ISOLATION FROM MAINLAND CHINA, THIS IS A NEW BEGINNING."

29. FROM HK, LAT'S ELEGANT (SEPT. 25) OBSERVES "LIBERATION" DURING THE PAST YEAR OF COUNTLESS SENIOR PARTY OFFICIALS IN CHINA; HOWEVER, FIRST TARGETS OF CULTURAL REVOLUTION -- WRITERS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH CULTURE -- HAVE NOT BEEN LIBERATED, AND "THERE IS LITTLE PROSPECT OF THEIR BEING REHABILITATED." CULTURE APPARENTLY REMAINS PROVINCE OF CHIANG CHING WHOSE REMAINING LEFTIST FOLLOWERS ARE NOT ANXIOUS TO UNCLASSIFIED

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PERMIT RESTORATION OF THEIR BITTEREST FOES. NONE OF WRITERS OR JOURNALISTS ACCUSED OF PERSONAL ATTACKS ON MAO HAS REAPPEARED; SOME ACCUSED OF CRIMES ALMOST EQUALLY GRAVE HAVE REAPPEARED, BUT NONE OF ANY STANDING HAS RESUMED HIS PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY. PIANIST LIU SHIH-KUN HAS APPEARED AT PUBLIC FUNCTIONS RECENTLY, BUT HE CAN NO LONGER PLAY, HIS FINGERS HAVING BEEN BROKEN BY RED GUARDS. SOLE NOTABLE EXCEPTIONS TO NEAR MONOPOLY IN MOTION PICTURES OF REVOLUTIONARY DRAMAS ARE FILMS SHOWING SIHANOUK'S TRAVELS, WHICH WITH THEIR BACKGROUND OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES PROVIDE WELCOME RELIEF FOR CHINESE AUDIENCES. AMONG PERSONS OF IMPORTANCE WHO HAVE NOT REAPPEARED ARE TAO CHU WHO WAS BRIEFLY CULTURAL REVOLUTION'S CULTURAL CHIEF - BUT HIS WIFE HAS REAPPEARED, THOUGH ASSIGNED NO OFFICIAL FUNCTION; LU TING-YI, WHO WAS DIRECTOR OF CULTURE BEFORE GPCR; CHOU YANG, ONCE CHINA'S LITERARY CZAR; AND WU HAN, HISTORIAN, PLAYWRIGHT AND EDITOR. "IN BELLES LETTRES,

THE THEATER AND JOURNALISM, CHINA IS STILL VIRTUALLY A
DESERT -- WITH JUST A FEW TINY GREEN SHOOTS BEGINNING TO
APPEAR."

30. JACK ANDERSON (WP) SAYS FAMILIES OF AMERICAN MIAS
IN INDOCHINA ARE PLANNING "PAINFUL PILGRIMAGE" TO LAOS
TO ESTABLISH "MERCY VIGIL" AT VIENTIANE FOR NEWS OF
ESTIMATED 400 MISSING IN OR NEAR LAOS. ADDS THAT US
MILITARY TEAM IN THAILAND ONLY AWAITS COMMUNISTS'
OK TO SCOUR JUNGLES AND MOUNTAINS FOR MEN. "IMPRACTICAL
AS IT SOUNDS," SEVERAL GRAY-HAIRED MOTHERS HAVE BEGGED
TO VISIT VILLAGES IN TREACHEROUS TERRAIN IN QUEST OF
WORD ON SONS' FATE.

31. PHILA. BULLETIN'S GRADY REVIEWS WINDUP OF PHILA.
ORHESTRA'S "TRIUMPHANT" CHINA TOUR, WHICH ENDED WITH
"DAZZLING DAY" IN SHANGHAI; USLO CHIEF BRUCE SENT
CONGRATULATORY CABLE; ORMANDY PLEDGED RETURN TRIPS --"AND
JUDGING FROM ENTHUSIASM ON THE HOMEWARD PLANE, HE WOULD
GET 105 VOLUNTEERS" (SEPT. 22/23). RUSH

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